

17 August 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Chief, WE/RC

SUBJECT : Attached Publication, This is the Soviet Union

1. The cover and the style of the attached publication are quite effective, and in its emphasis on the nationalities of the Soviet Union, the publication is a step forward. There is no indication as to whom and by what means it will be distributed. We feel it would be useful to have it translated into other languages for consumption by other than English-speaking audiences in the West, particularly by those in the newly established nations.

2. Future similar publications might put even greater emphasis on the nationalities problems. For example:

a. The attached publication points out that there are large numbers of Russians living in the various republics and that they even outnumber the local nationals in the capital cities. The ultimate Soviet aim of Russification could be spelled out to make it more obvious to the uninformed reader.

b. The tendency to confuse the Ukraine, historically, or the name Rus', with Russia (as in the publication's statement that the first Russian state which emerged in the 9th century had its capital in Kiev) should be avoided. The name Rus' to designate both the territory and the people of the Kiev-Pereyaslav lands was used as early as the 9th century. The use of the name Rus' in describing the people in the Kiev-Peryaslav lands appears in the 14th through the 16th centuries and was used in Kozak times when the name "Ukraine" was already in wide use. It was not until the 14th century that the prince of Moscow began to call himself the "Prince of Rus' as well."

4. In general, This is the Soviet Union is an attractive and interesting publication. We should be interested in seeing any of the booklets in this style LCBEFORE may produce in the future.

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